



Madison River Negotiated Rulemaking Committee

Application Packet

Thank you for your interest in serving on the Madison River Negotiated Rulemaking Committee (NRC) and helping to develop rules for future management on this river. It is important that you review the application material before submitting an application. **Applications must be received no later than October 22, 2018.**

General Information

The Madison River is frequently the most heavily fished river in Montana, and it is an important part of the local and regional economy. The popularity of the Madison River presents several challenges for the agencies responsible for managing recreation on the river and at its access sites. In recent years, angler and commercial use has increased dramatically. This has led to increased conflicts among wade anglers, boating anglers and commercial anglers. User satisfaction has decline among users of varying demographics, which has resulted in displacement to other waters. Although the fishery remains in good condition, the accumulation of environmental and anthropogenic stressors may cause future declines in the numbers and size of fish.

Information for Applicants

Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission (Commission) will review applications and make final appointments to the NRC after taking recommendations from the Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP). The Negotiated Rulemaking process was authorized by Montana Code Annotated 2-4-304 and is established by 2-5-102 through 2-5-110, to be used toward resolution of controversial issues. The Commission, along with FWP, has assembled the following information to consider before you submit an application to serve on the NRC.

Commitment to Collaboration

As directed by state statute, the duty of a committee member is to consider the matter and attempt to reach consensus on the proposed rule. NRC members are expected to negotiate in good faith working towards collaborative solutions that meet their own personal interests as well as the interests of the other committee members and the public at large to reach consensus on the proposed rule. It is not necessary to share the same perspective as other committee members, but it is imperative that committee members treat each other with respect and civility. If an applicant is not willing or able to negotiate in good faith and work toward a consensus, the Commission encourages persons not to apply.

Time Commitment

The NRC will meet for two full consecutive days, three to five total times in January and February of 2019. FWP expects the process to be completed by March of 2019. Location of meetings will depend on availability of meeting rooms and travel distance for committee members. After selection of the

committee, committee members will be provided with many documents that will need to be reviewed prior to the first meeting.

Travel Reimbursement

The Commission/FWP will reimburse mileage for NRC members' travel to and from official NRC meetings within Montana, potentially including lodging and meals. Special note to nonresident applicants: FWP encourages nonresidents to apply. Nonresidents will be responsible for their travel to Montana.

Participation

NRC members are expected to attend all meetings, and NRC members will be removed from the committee if multiple meetings are missed. Exceptions will be allowed on a case-by-case basis.

Advisory Role

The NRC serves in an advisory capacity. Its role in the process is to develop draft recreation rules. The FWP Commission will consider the recommendations of the NRC. There is no guarantee, however, that the final recreation rules will follow the NRC recommendations. The public's comments on the draft recreation rules, the results of the environmental analysis, and input from FWP staff will also play a significant role in the development of the final rules.

Composition of the NRC

The composition of the NRC is an important aspect of the Madison River Recreation negotiated rulemaking process. The Commission is seeking a diverse committee to represent the various interest categories that recreate on the Madison River or are affected by recreation management decisions. People with the ability to represent more than one interest category are desirable. FWP will appoint approximately 8 to 10 people to represent the interests.

It is not necessary, or even possible, for the same number of people to represent each of the varied interests. Rather, the structure of the NRC is focused on all the interests being represented, rather than equal representation for a particular interest. For example, there may not be an equal number of persons that represent "commercial" interest or "noncommercial" interests. In fact, each individual NRC member has the same right to defeat a proposal. Consensus is required for a proposal to be advanced to the commission at the end of the process. Therefore, any one person, no matter what interest he/she represents, has the ability to affect the outcome of each proposal before the NRC.

Questions

Please call (406) 444-2449 or email madisonrivercom@mt.gov if you have questions about the NRC application process.

Madison River Negotiated Rulemaking Committee Application Form

Applications must be received no later than October 22, 2018.

Mail or Email:
Fish, Wildlife & Parks Region 3
Madison NRC
1400 South 19th Avenue
Bozeman, MT 59718-5496
madisonrivercom@mt.gov

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Please Print

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Day) _____ (Evening or Cell) _____

E-mail _____

Residency Status (check one): **Resident of Montana** ☐ **Nonresident** ☐

Please address each of the following questions. If you need additional space attach a separate paper. Incomplete or misleading information may result in not being chosen for the committee or removal from the committee. FWP may require an interview and/or a background check as part of the application process.

1. Please list 3 reasons for wanting to be a member of the NRC.

[illegible]

2. Does your schedule allow you to commit to attending meetings starting in January of 2019?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

3. Please indicate your availability to attend meetings and circle your preference:

- ☐ Weekdays
- ☐ Weekends
- ☐ Evenings
- ☐ Daytime

4. Have you participated as a member of an advisory committee tasked with developing recommendations for recreation or resource management? Please list examples:

5. Please check ALL categories that apply to you. CIRCLE the ONE you most identify with.

- ☐ Float Angler (non-commercial)
- ☐ Wade Angler (non-commercial)
- ☐ Madison River Special Recreation Permit holder
- ☐ Fishing Outfitter (Licensed in MT)
- ☐ Fishing Guide (Licensed in MT)
- ☐ Fishing Access Site visitor, not floating or fishing
- ☐ Madison River Landowner (land adjacent to Madison River)
- ☐ Boater: Non-angling
- ☐ Employed in Recreation/Tourism (Business type: _____)
- ☐ Personal (e.g., close friend or family an outfitter or guide) or financial interest in commercial angling (e.g., investment in commercial fishing company)
- ☐ Non-Angling business owner
- ☐ Montana resident
- ☐ Other: _____

If you would like to participate as a representative of an organized group, please indicate the name of that group here: _____

6. Please check the sections of the Madison River you are familiar with. CIRCLE the section you are MOST familiar with.

- ☐ Hebgen Lake to Ennis Dam
- ☐ Ennis Dam to Confluence with Missouri River

7. Do you have experience in collaborative processes to reach consensus on solutions for a controversial issue? Do you have the ability to negotiate in good faith working towards collaborative solutions that not only meet your personal interests but also the interests of other committee members and the public at large? Please give examples.

8. Use the space below to provide additional comments on why you would add value to the NRC:

Montana FWP staff and a Member of the Fish and Wildlife commission may require an interview of potential candidates prior to selection.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

✗ Please sign and date your application.